Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Thursday 14 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Friday 15 Dec 2023

Forecast Issued on Wednesday 13 Dec 2023 at 11:48

Confidence: High becoming Medium in detail from Saturday.

Headline for Thursday 14 Dec 2023: Damp start, but soon brightening up.

Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 14 Dec 2023

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Cloudy	Sleet	Heavy Rain	Mist	Cloudy	Sunny intervals	Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability							
20%	90%	80%	40%	20%	20%	10%	10%

Forecast for Thursday 14 Dec 2023

Weather: Overnight rain and snow, the snow mainly at height and soon turning to rain at all levels. Early morning low cloud with outbreaks of rain and drizzle, but the cloud lifting and breaking by midday, some bright, perhaps sunny spells developing. Mainly dry, although the odd shower is possible. Cloudy or partly cloudy in the evening, mainly dry, but isolated showers still possible.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 20% overnight and early morning, rising to 80% during daylight hours.

Low cloud and visibility: Extensive cloud, base 300m, lifting and breaking, becoming occasional or scattered cloud, base 600 to 900m, during the morning. Visibility moderate to very poor, becoming mostly very good by midday, except in showers and summit cloud.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Thursday 14 Dec 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	16/21 S	28/35 S	23/28 S	24/30 W	24/31 W	25/32 W	23/30 W	22/28 W	22/29 W
600	16/22 S	25/34 S	17/24 S	19/28 W	19/27 W	20/29 W	19/28 W	19/27 W	18/27 W
300	5/15 S	8/24 S	4/16 S	9/22 W	9/23 W	10/24 W	9/23 W	9/22 W	9/21 W
Valley	4/13 S	7/21 S	5/13 SW	7/20 W	10/21 W	9/22 W	9/22 W	10/22 W	10/22 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-2/-8	-1/-9	1/-6	2/-5	2/-5	1/-5	1/-5	1/-5	1/-5
600	0/-5	1/-6	2/-3	4/-2	4/-2	4/-2	3/-2	3/-2	3/-2
300	2/-1	2/-1	4/2	5/2	6/3	6/2	5/2	5/2	5/2
Valley	4/2	5/3	6/5	7/5	8/6	8/6	8/5	8/5	8/5
Freezing Level*	600m	900m	1500m	1100m	1000m	1000m	1000m	1000m	1100m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Nothing further to add.

Forecast for Friday 15 Dec 2023

Weather: Mainly dry overnight and during the morning with occasional bright or clear spells. Lowering cloud and outbreaks of rain and drizzle from around midday, then little change. Windy with a significant wind chill over the summits.

Maximum wind: West or Southwest 25 to 30mph gusting 40mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 80% early, falling 20% or less in the afternoon.

Low cloud and visibility: Occasional or scattered cloud near or above the summits, becoming extensive, base 300 to 600m in the afternoon. Visibility mainly very good at first, but falling moderate to very poor in rain, drizzle and cloud.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 4 to 10 Celsius
At 800m: Plus 2 rising to 6 Celsius
Freezing level: Above the summits

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Wednesday 13 December 2023 Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:20 Full report: The vast majority of the Lakeland fells are now clear of snow. The only patches remaining are above 750m in sheltered spots and hollows and on predominantly north and east facing aspects. Although few in number such snow patches consisted of hard, sometimes icy, snow but are generally easy to avoid. The main hazard encountered today was verglas (thin ice) coating rocks mostly above 900m. By its very nature this is extremely difficult to spot when one first comes across it and makes for slow progress, especially in descent. At the time of writing, there is the possibility that such old snow and verglas could be hidden beneath fresh overnight snow making for treacherous conditions for walkers attempting the highest peaks on Thursday. Thus it is strongly recommended that microspikes and possibly crampons and an ice axe are carried for those attempting the highest peaks and especially so if their route covers steep and exposed terrain. Owing to the ice and wind at altitude, there was a noticeable contrast between the mild valleys and the summit where, around midday, the temperature was minus 2 degrees C and the windchill minus 12 degrees. Thus, full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat and gloves), mountain boots and equipment including a torch, map and compass are all essential to safely, and enjoyably, roam the fells. Temperature: minus 1.7 C, Maximum wind speed 30.1 mph, Wind chill: minus 11.5 C, Average wind speed: 23.1 mph

Issued at: 1730 on Wed 13 Dec 2023

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